

**Amendment To The Claims**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for a user to find pinpoint status of a shipment being transported by a carrier, comprising the steps of:

clicking on a local shipment pinpoint symbol on a computer screen;

connecting automatically to an internet or private network, if a connection is not already established;

then, in response to clicking on the shipment pinpoint symbol, sending automatically a shipping pinpoint status inquiry to the carrier via the internet or private network;

requesting a pinpoint location of the shipment in response to the shipping pinpoint status inquiry; and

receiving the requested pinpoint location of the shipment to the computer screen,

wherein the pinpoint location identifies a position between checkpoints at each of which shipment presence is monitored regardless of user inquiries.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the shipment pinpoint symbol is an icon of a file, in a markup language, including a tracking code of the shipment.

3. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the shipment pinpoint symbol is provided to the computer screen in conjunction with a shipment checkpoint symbol, and

wherein the shipment checkpoint symbol is for obtaining information as to the presence of at least one of the checkpoints.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein if the step of providing the pinpoint shipping status information to the computer screen is performed later than a certain time after the step of sending automatically the shipping pinpoint inquiry, due to a delay, then a user of the computer screen is compensated for the delay, and if the step of providing the pinpoint shipping status information to the computer screen is not performed later than a certain time after the step of sending automatically the shipping pinpoint inquiry, due to a delay, then the user of the computer screen is not compensated.

5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the position is separate from all of the checkpoints.

6. (currently amended) A method for providing a user ~~the~~ a status indication associated with ~~[[of]]~~ a shipment being transported by a carrier, comprising the steps of:

processing a user transaction at a web site;

receiving a type of shipment selection;

creating a file that includes markup language and that includes

at least one link to shipment tracking information;

providing the file to the user for storage locally at a user device;

receiving a check status request from the file after the file is activated; and

providing the status indication to the user.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 6, wherein the status indication indicates a position between checkpoints at each of which shipment presence is monitored regardless of user inquiries, and wherein the position is separate from all the checkpoints.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the steps of:  
  
replacing or modifying the file to create an improved file; and  
  
activating the improved file to check an additional status of an additional shipment being transported by an additional carrier.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of replacing or modifying the file is implemented at least partly by a program stored in the user device.

10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of replacing or modifying the file is implemented at least partly by a third party.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of replacing or modifying the file is implemented at least partly by the carrier or by the additional carrier.

12. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the shipment tracking information is for a plurality of shipments being transported by a plurality of carriers.

13. (currently amended) A system for a user to obtain via internet or other network, a pinpoint status of a shipment being transported by a carrier, comprising;

a server computer for providing to a user computer a clickable shipment pinpoint symbol that is stored locally and when selected by the user triggers a shipping pinpoint inquiry to a carrier; and

a shipping location tracker device, responsive to the shipping pinpoint inquiry, for providing the pinpoint status to the user computer via the internet or private network;

wherein the pinpoint status identifies a position between two checkpoints at each of which shipment presence is monitored regardless of user inquiries.

14. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the shipment pinpoint symbol is an icon of a file, in a markup language, including a tracking code of the shipment.

15. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the shipment pinpoint symbol is provided to the computer screen in conjunction with a shipment checkpoint symbol, and

wherein the shipment checkpoint symbol is for obtaining information as to the presence of at least one of the checkpoints.

16. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the position is separate from all of the checkpoints.

17. (new) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

the program stored in the user device automatically polls additional check status requests after the status indication changes.

18. (new) The method of claim 17, wherein:

the status indication change indicates the shipment is out for delivery.

19. (new) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

the program stored in the user device displays a location message when a delivery vehicle is a first distance from a delivery location associated with the shipment.

20. (new) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

the program stored in the user device is loaded as a background process after the status indication changes.